



THE ROYAL OPERA

Music Director JAKUB HRŮŠA
Director of Opera OLIVER MEARS

Tosca

MELODRAMMA IN THREE ACTS

Music GIACOMO PUCCINI
Libretto GIUSEPPE GIACOSA and LUIGI ILLICA
after VICTORIEN SARDOU's play *La Tosca*

Conductor JAKUB HRŮŠA
Director OLIVER MEARS
Set Designer SIMON LIMA HOLDSWORTH
Costume Designer ILONA KARAS
Lighting Designer FABIANA PICCIOLI
Movement and Intimacy Director
ANNA MORRISSEY

ROYAL OPERA CHORUS
Chorus Director WILLIAM SPAULDING

ORCHESTRA OF THE ROYAL OPERA HOUSE
Principal Guest Concert Master
by arrangement with Trittico VASKO VASSILEV

Directed for the screen by PETER JONES

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Broadcast from the Royal Opera House on
WEDNESDAY 1 OCTOBER 2025

Approximate Timings

PRE-SHOW 10 minutes
ACT I 45 minutes
Interval 25 minutes
ACT II 45 minutes
INTERVAL 25 minutes
ACT III 30 minutes
CURTAIN CALL 10 minutes

Language

Sung in Italian with English subtitles

Guidance

This production contains depictions of violence, blood, gore, murder, sexual assault, implied torture and suicide. There are gunshots in Act III.

Cast

Floria Tosca ANNA NETREBKO
Mario Cavaradossi FREDDIE DE TOMMASO
Baron Scarpia GERALD FINLEY
Spoletta CARLO BOSI
Cesare Angelotti OSSIAN HUSKINSON*
Sacristan ALESSANDRO CORBELLI
Sciarrone SIPHE KWANI*
Young Shepherd ESMAE FROUD
Gaoler OLLE ZETTERSTRÖM
*Jette Parker Artist

Extra Chorus
Sopranos REBECCA GOULDEN, JANET FAIRLIE,
CELESTE GATTAI, VANESSA WOODFINE
Mezzo-sopranos MARIA BROWN,
STEPHANIE CORLEY, SIOBHAIN GIBSON,
CLARE MCCALDIN, JENNIFER WESTWOOD
Tenors RICHARD MONK, ROBERT AMON,
SIMON BIAZECK, SIMON PREECE
Basses OSCAR CASTELLINO, OLIVER GIBBS,
GAVIN HORSLEY

Actors DAVID GALEA, SULEIMAN SULEIMAN,
JAMES UNSWORTH, CHARLIE VENABLES,
ADDIS WILLIAMS

Children's Chorus
CARDINAL VAUGHAN SCHOOL
Music Director SCOTT PRICE
GREY COAT HOSPITAL SCHOOL
Music Director STEVE HILL

Synopsis

ACT I

Cesare Angelotti, a politician of the former Roman Republic, has escaped prison and seeks refuge in a church. The painter Mario Cavaradossi, a Republican sympathizer working in the church, promises to help him. Angelotti hides as Cavaradossi's lover Floria Tosca arrives. The lovers' meeting reveals Tosca's passionate love and jealousy. When Tosca has gone, Cavaradossi instructs Angelotti to hide at Cavaradossi's villa. Baron Scarpia, a police commander, arrives at the church, interrupting the congregation's celebrations of a victory at the Battle of Marengo. He suspects Cavaradossi of hiding Angelotti. When Tosca returns, Scarpia uses a fan left by Angelotti to make her believe that Cavaradossi is having an affair. The congregation sings a prayer: the Te Deum. Tosca leaves for Cavaradossi's villa, and Scarpia instructs his assistant Spoletta to follow her and track down Angelotti.

INTERVAL

ACT II

Scarpia has arrested Cavaradossi. He summons Tosca and forces her to listen as Cavaradossi is tortured in the next room. Tosca reveals Angelotti's hiding place. Scarpia condemns Cavaradossi to death but tells Tosca that he will free her lover if she will offer herself to him. In agony, Tosca agrees and Scarpia tells her he will arrange a mock execution. As Scarpia embraces Tosca, she kills him.

INTERVAL

ACT III

As dawn approaches, Cavaradossi waits for his execution in the Castel Sant'Angelo. Tosca arrives and tells him what she has done. She instructs him on how to pretend to die in the mock execution. When Cavaradossi is shot, Tosca is impressed with her lover's acting. But Scarpia has double-crossed her: Cavaradossi really is dead. As Spoletta's men arrive to arrest her for Scarpia's murder, she kills herself.

Production

Music preparation NICK FLETCHER, RICHARD FU*,
PEGGY WU*, ALEKSANDRA MYSLEK,
NICHOLAS ANSDELL-EVANS
Assistant Directors SIMON IORIO, ISABELLE KETTLE
Language Coach BARBARA DIANA
Fight Director BRET YOUNT
Sound Effects EMMA LAXTON
*Jette Parker Artist

The Royal Opera

Patron HM THE KING
Music Director JAKUB HRŮŠA
Director of Opera OLIVER MEARS
Director of Casting PETER MARIO KATONA
Associate Director NETIA JONES
Administrative Director CORMAC SIMMS

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